



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

#3/IN

APPLICANTS: Pauschinger et al
SERIAL NO.: 09/723,029 GROUP ART UNIT: 2122
DATE FILED: November 27, 2000
INVENTION: "METHOD FOR PROTECTING A DEVICE AGAINST
OPERATION WITH UNALLOWED CONSUMABLES
AND ARRANGEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE METHOD"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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S I R:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

- AA - United States Patent No. 6,178,410
- AB - United States Patent No. 6,059,402
- AC - United States Patent No. 5,940,103
- AD - United States Patent No. 5,930,553
- AE - United States Patent No. 5,929,884
- AF - United States Patent No. 5,821,975
- AG - United States Patent No. 5,771,348
- AH - United States Patent No. 5,710,721
- AI - United States Patent No. 5,638,442
- AJ - United States Patent No. 5,365,312
- AK - United States Patent No. 5,303,005
- AL - PCT Application WO 99/48694

AM - PCT Application WO 98/04414
AN - European Application 0 956 962
AO - European Application 0 934 828
AP - European Application 0 927 639
AQ - European Application 0 832 749
AA' - United States Patent No. 4,196,625
AL' - European Application 0 825 564
AM' - European Application 0 782 053
AN' - European Application 0 720 916
AO' - German OS 199 00 686
AP' - German OS 198 18 708
AQ' - German OS 198 38 913
AL'' - German OS 44 32 807
AM'' - German OS 195 49 376
AN'' - German Utility Model 298 21 903

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Reference AB corresponds to German PS 196 13 944, Reference AC corresponds to German PS 196 13 945, Reference AE corresponds to German PS 196 13 943, Reference AF corresponds to European Application 0 730 974 and Reference AA' corresponds to German OS 27 28 283, all of which were identified and discussed in the present specification, in addition to References AQ' and AM''.

All of the remaining references, or their respective foreign counterparts, were cited in a Search Report rendered by the German Patent and Trademark Office during examination of the corresponding German Application.

Translations of the non-English-Language references are not readily available to the applicants, however, for those references either an English-Language Abstract has been

provided, or identification of the corresponding copending United States Application is made below.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form PTO-1449 are submitted herewith.

Reference AO' corresponds to copending United States Application Serial No. 09/477,888, which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on January 5, 2000 ("Configuration for Closing Envelopes"). That application is pending in Group Art Unit 3751.

Reference AP' corresponds to copending United States Application Serial No. 09/294,578, which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 20, 1999 ("Method for Reloading a Postage Credit Into an Electronic Franking Unit"). That application is pending in Group Art Unit 2761.

Reference AN'' corresponds to copending United States Application Serial No. 09/452,505, which was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 1, 1999 ("An Arrangement for Entering and Presenting User Information at a Display"). That application is pending in Group Art Unit 2773.

Each of the above-identified copending applications is owned by the same Assignee as the present application, Francotyp-Postalia AG & Co.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is, therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 30, 2001.

Steven H. Noll

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